ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF PLOT 8, MAIN ROAD, TOYNTON ALL SAINTS LINCS (TRM03)

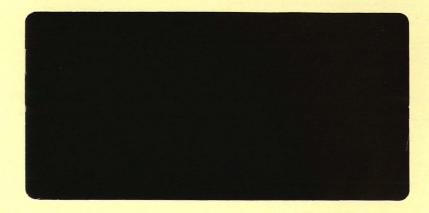


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Conservation Services

2 4 FEB 2004

Highways & Planning Directorate



ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF PLOT 8, MAIN ROAD, TOYNTON ALL SAINTS LINCS (TRM03)

Work Undertaken For Mrs C Morgan

February 2004

Report Compiled by Peter Watkin

National Grid Reference: TF 3960 6325 Planning Reference: S/185/00249/03 City and County Museum Accession No:2003.262

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 147/03

Quality Control Main Road, Toynton All Saints TMR 03

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development at Plot 8, Main Road Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for one new dwelling

Toynton All Saints is known to have been an important centre for pottery production and kilns of both medieval (AD 1066-1540) and post-medieval (AD 1540-1900) are known in close proximity to the development. Bronze Age (2200-800 BC) and Romano-British (AD 43-410) remains are also known in the vicinity.

The investigations identified a medieval subsoil deposit and a possible medieval boundary. Finds include locally produced pottery, including one waster, and two fragments of fired clay, one being possible kiln furniture. Other, non-local, forms of medieval pottery were also identified.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as "a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Mrs C Morgan, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the building of a new property at Plot 8, Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought

through the submission of planning application S/ 185/00249/03. The watching brief was carried out on 19th July 2003, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Built Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Toynton All Saints is located 15km southeast of Horncastle and 17km west of Skegness at the southern edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds, East Lindsey District, Lincolnshire. (Fig. 1).

The site lies south of the village centre as defined by the parish church of All Saints (Fig. 2). Centred on National Grid Reference TF 3960 6325 the site lies at a height of c. 21m OD on land that slopes down to the south.

Local soils are of the Salop Association, typically stagnogley soils with slowly permeable subsoil (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 305). These soils overlie a drift geology of glacially derived till which seals a solid geology of Jurassic Ampthill Clay Series (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Toynton All Saints is located in an area of archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age to the present day. A Bronze Age socketed axe is known from fields near Water Mill Lane.

Located to the southwest of the village is evidence for a Romano-British settlement identified during extensive survey (Lane 1993, 56).

Toynton is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Totintun* the name is derived from the Old English and means the settlement $(t\bar{u}n)$ of Tota's people (Cameron 1998, 129). The affixes are from the church

dedications and are first mentioned in the 13th century. At the time of Domesday the land was held by the Bishop of Durham and Ivo Taillebois and contained a church with 36 acres of meadow and 5 acres of underwood (Foster and Longley 1976).

Sometime after 1200 potters began working in Toynton All Saints, though there are few documentary references to this industry. However, much of the parish contains archaeological remains representative of pottery production.

Excavated kiln sites lie to the north and south of the development area and provide evidence of the medieval pottery industry. In close proximity to the area of investigation is a 13th – 14th century kiln that produced decorated jugs (Healey 1984, 73). Recent investigations at the same site has indicated that bowls and pancheons were also produced there later in the 15th and 16th centuries (Cope-Faulkner *et al.* 1999). The Toynton potteries seem to have expired during the 17th century.

All Saints church is of medieval origin and presumably replaced the church referred to in the Domesday Survey, although is masked by Georgian brickwork (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 769).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), were to locate and record archaeological deposits and, if present, determine their nature, function, date and origin.

4. METHODS

Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches topsoil was removed. Foundation trenches were then excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were then partially excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit encountered was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2). A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at 1:100. Recording of the deposits and features was according undertaken to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). Records were also examined and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

5. RESULTS

Following post excavation analysis three phases were identified.

Phase 1 Natural deposits
Phase 2 Medieval deposits
Phase 3 Modern deposits

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural Deposits

The earliest deposit encounted was a mid yellowish brown clay silt that was 0.3m and 0.5m thick. (003) This deposit was interpreted as the natural geology.

Phase 2 Medieval Deposits

Developed on the natural was a layer of medium to mid greyish brown silty sand with orange mottling, (002). This was

0.25m deep and contained medieval pottery.

Cutting this deposit was feature (006), at least 12m long and 2.9m wide by 0.4m deep and is identified as a ditch. Aligned southwest-northeast, this feature contained three fills (Fig 4). The lowest fill was a mid greyish brown silty sand with orange mottles (005). This was 0.3m deep to the limit of excavation. Overlying this was a mid to dark brown sandy silt with grey mottles (007) which was 0.14m deep and sealed by a 0.12m deep dark brown sandy silt (004). Each fill contained medieval pottery.

Phase 3 Modern Deposits

Sealing all archaeological deposits was a mid yellowish brown sandy silt 0.36m deep (001) which forms the modern plough soil.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise clays of the underlying glacial till.

Medieval deposits (Phase 2) comprise a linear ditch exposed within the excavated footings. The presents of locally produced pottery fragments and pottery wasters and kiln furniture point toward the possibility of a nearby kiln. Excavations between 1958 and 1964 identified three kilns in close proximity to the site, two to the south and one on the opposite side of the street (Healey 1984, 75). The ditch ran approximately east-west, that is across the slope and is therefore likely to be a boundary, rather than for drainage.

Modern deposits (Phase 3) comprising a disturbed plough soil containing medieval pottery The presence of this pottery could be attributed to deep agricultural disturbance of the subsoil.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at Plot 8, Main Road, Toynton All Saints as the site lay in close proximity to an area of medieval pottery production and close to the historic core of the village.

Medieval remains, including a subsoil deposit and a ditch were revealed. Pottery wasters and pieces of kiln furniture were recovered from the ditch and suggest the proximity of pottery manufacture

The nature of the local site conditions, suggests that few environmental indicators (seeds, wood, pollen, etc.) would survive. other then through charring.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mrs C Morgan for commissioning the fieldwork and the post excavation analysis. The investigation was coordinated by Gary Taylor, who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly permitted access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor Site Supervisor: Fiona Walker Finds processing: Denise Buckley Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth CAD Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner and Peter Watkin.

Post-excavation analysis: Peter Watkin

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

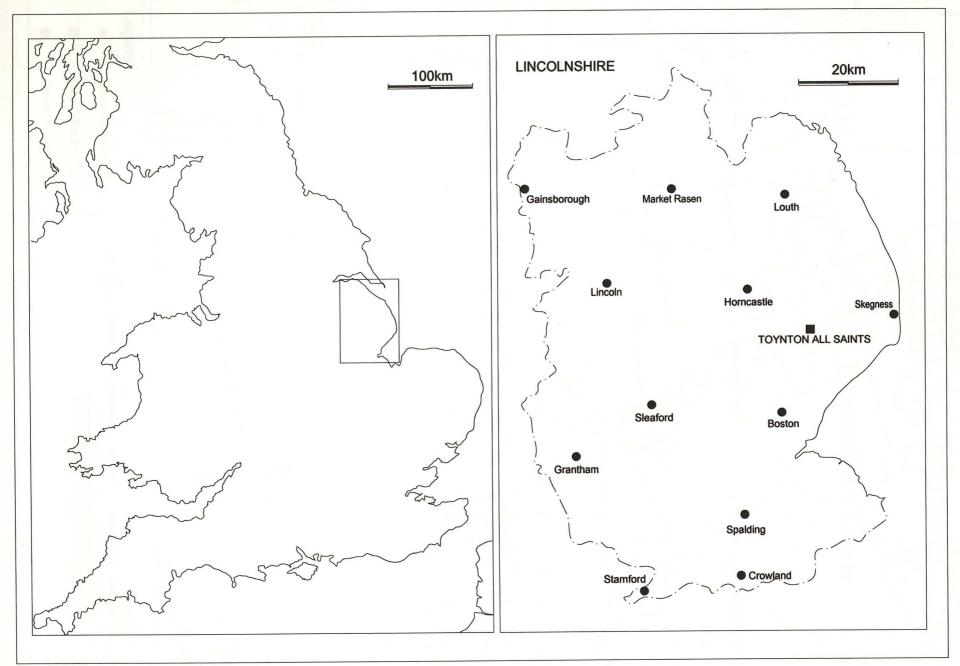


Figure 1: General Location Plan

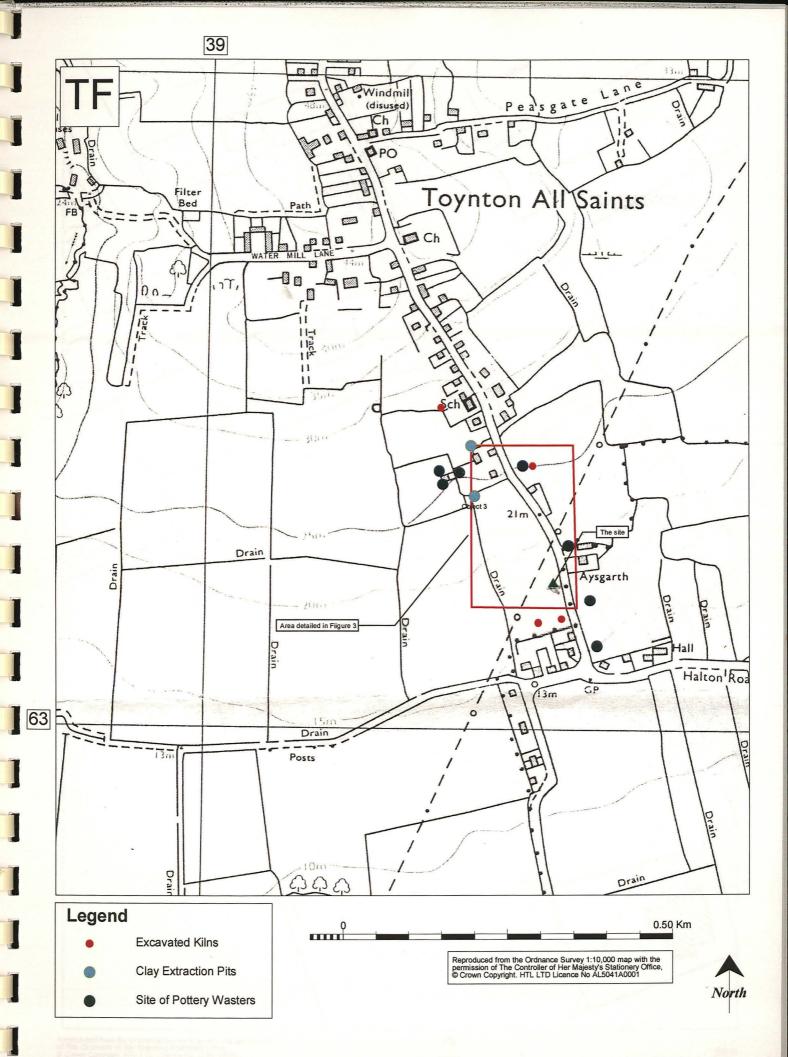


Figure 2 General site location plan



Figure 3 Site location plan

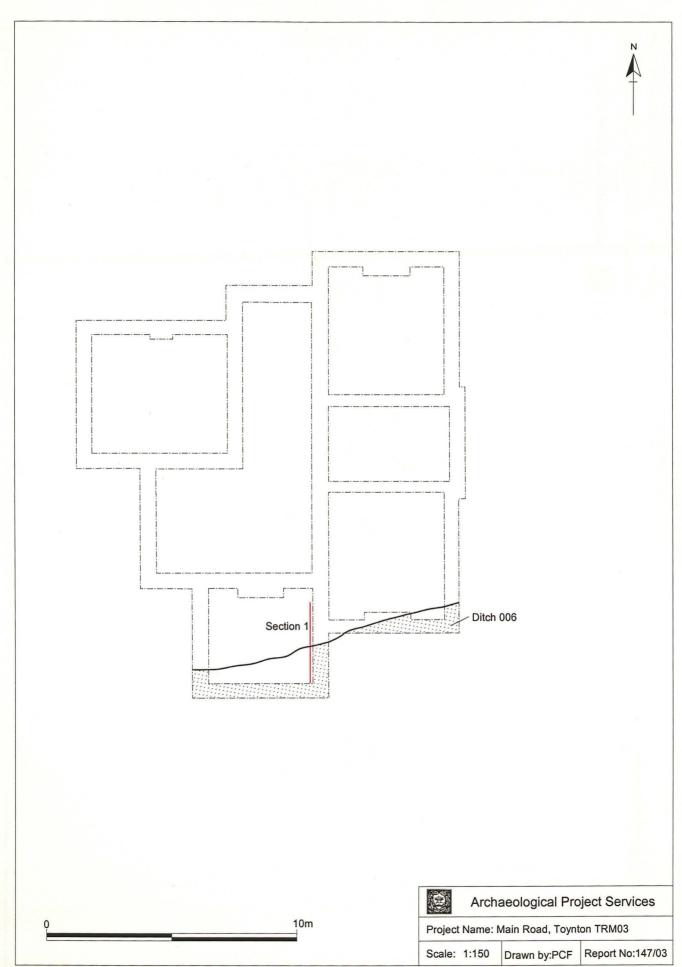


Figure 4: Development Plan

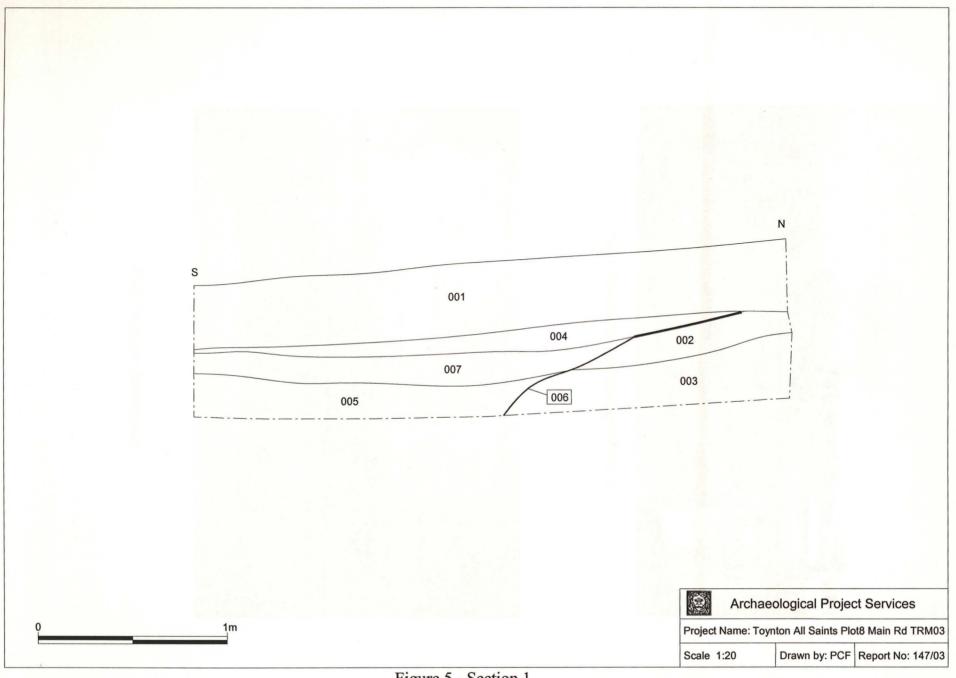


Figure 5 - Section 1



Plate1 General site view looking north west



Plate 2 Section 1 looking west

LAND AT THE PLOT 8 MAIN ROAD, TOYNTON ALL SAINTS, LINCOLNSHIRE - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A watching brief is required during construction of a dwelling on land at Plot 8, Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 Toynton All Saints was an important centre of pottery production in the medieval and postmedieval periods and kilns of both dates have been found in proximity to the development site.
- 1.3 The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during a programme of residential development at land at Plot 8, Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project.

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Toynton All Saints is located approximately 21km northeast of Boston and 2km south of Spilsby in the administrative district of East Lindsey. The site lies in the south of the village on the west side of Main Road at National Grid Reference TF 393 637.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Planning permission (Application no. S/185/00249/03) for a new dwelling has been granted by East Lindsey District Council, subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Toynton All Saints is situated at the southern edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds. The site and surrounding area is on a slope down to the south and lies at approximately 23m OD. Soils at the site are Cuckney 2 Association brown sands on Cretaceous sandstone (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 152).

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY

6.1 Toynton All Saints was an important centre of pottery production in the medieval and postmedieval periods. Excavated kiln sites lie immediately to the north and to the northwest and south of the development area and provide evidence of this medieval pottery industry. Approximately 30m north of the proposed development area is the site of a 13th-14th century kiln that was used to produce decorated jugs. Recent investigations at that site have established that bowls and pancheons were also produced there later in the 15th-16th centuries. Extensive quantities of medieval pottery have been recovered during from that site (Archaeological Project Services 2000).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.2 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 The sections of the trenches will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The plans of the trench and features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Section drawings of the trenches and features will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record consisting of colour prints will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - The site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained

before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour prints will be labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
 - A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the investigation.
 - Description of the topography of the site.
 - Description of the methodologies used during the investigation.
 - A text describing the findings of the investigation.
 - A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the investigation findings.
 - Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
 - Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
 - Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
 - Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
 - Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record; and to East Lindsey District Council Planning Department.

11 ARCHIVE

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives* for long-term storage and curation.

12 PUBLICATION

12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be presented to the editor of the journal Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: Britannia for discoveries of Roman date, and Medieval Archaeology and the journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Lincolnshire Archaeology Service. They will be given as much written notice as possible, ideally seven days, of the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS

14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one man-day) will require a post-excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half man-days) for completion of the analysis and report, unless particularly dense and complicated remains are revealed. If the fieldwork exceeds 5 days then there is likely to be an economy of scale with the analysis and reporting, unless particularly dense and complicated archaeological remains are revealed.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principal and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Task Body to be undertaking the work

Conservation Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Pottery Analysis Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, independent specialist Saxon - J Young, independent specialist

Medieval and later - H Healey, independent archaeologist, or G.

Taylor of APS

Non-pottery Artefacts

J Cowgill, independent specialist

Animal Bones

Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P Cope-Faulkner of

APS

Human Remains Analysis

R Gowland, independent specialist

17 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Archaeological Project Services, 2000 Archaeological Watching Brief at Plot 2, Main Road, Toynton All Saints, Lincolnshire (MRT98), APS Report No. 19/00

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CONTEXT DESCRIPTION

No:	Description	Interpretation
001	Medium mid yellowish brown sandy silt 0.36m thick	Plough Soil
002	Medium mid greyish brown with orange mottling sandy silt 0.25m thick	Subsoil
003	Firm pliable mid yellowish brown clay silt 0.5m thick	Natural
004	Medium dark brown sandy silt 0.12m thick	Fill of (006)
005	Medium light to mid greyish brown with orange mottling silty sand 0.3m thick	Fill of (006)
Feature > 12m long by >2.9m wide by 0.4 m deep gradual concaved sloping sides base unexcavated.		Linear Feature
007	Medium mid to dark brown with grey laminations sandy silt 0.14m deep	Fill of (006)

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Jane Young and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 42 fragments of pottery weighing 822g was recovered from 4 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a small quantity of other artefacts, solely fired clay, comprising 2 items weighing a total of 131g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 1 stratified fragment weighing 2g. The animal bone was identified by reference to published catalogues. No attempt is made to sex or age animals represented within the assemblage, although where this is readily apparent is noted in the comments column.

Provenance

The material was recovered from the topsoil (001), subsoil (002) and ditch fills (004, 005 and 007).

Most of the pottery was made locally in Toynton All Saints, though the latest pieces were probably manufactured in Staffordshire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	ext Fabric Code Description		Fabric Code Description		No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	WHITE	White glazed tablewares, 19 th century	2	15	19 th century		
	CRMWARE	Creamware, early 19th century	1	5			
	TPW	Blue and white transfer printed tableware, 19 th century	1	5			
	STSL	Staffordshire slipware, abraded, 18 th century	1	17			
	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, 1 waster, 3 abraded, 13 th -15 th century	4	20	×		
002	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, incl bowl, 1 abraded	2	33	13 th -15 th century		
004	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware	2	1	13 th -15 th century		
005	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware, incl jugs, bunghole cisterns and bowl, some abraded, 9 wasters, 13th-15th century	25(2 link)	693	15 th -16 th century		
	TOYII	Toynton All Saints ware jug, 15 th -16 th century	1	7			
007	BOU	Bourne D ware	3(link)	26	15 th -16 th century		

Locally-made Toynton All Saints wares dominate the assemblage, with wasters evident in the group. These relate to known medieval pottery production in the proximity.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context Material		Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
005	Fired Clay	Fired clay	1	21	
*Zeneum	Fired clay	Kiln furniture, possible kiln floor	1	110	

Both pieces of fired clay could be remnants of kiln.

Table 3: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
004	unidentified	Unknown	1	2	splinter

Condition

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been numerous previous archaeological investigations at Toynton All Saints, including in close proximity to the current site, that area the subjects of reports. Moreover, there have been examinations of pottery kilns in the very near vicinity of the site. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

The moderate collection of medieval pottery fragments is of moderate local potential and significance. Wasters are present in the group and confirm pottery production close to the site.

The lack of any material earlier than the 13th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period are absent from the area, or were not disturbed by the development, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition. Similarly, the dearth of post-medieval, 16th-18th century, artefacts would tend to suggest that the site experienced a phase of abandonment at that time.

References

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

GLOSSARY

Alluvium Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and

fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.

Anglo-Saxon Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern

Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately

AD 450-1066.

Bronze Age A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools,

between 2250 and 800 BC.

Context An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or

process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].

Cut A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation

trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and

subsequently recorded.

Decorated Division of English Gothic architecture dating from c.1290-1350.

Domesday Survey A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of

William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.

Fill Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it

can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are

referred to as its fill(s).

Layer A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that

is not contained within a cut.

Medieval The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.

Natural Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the

influence of human activity

Post-medieval The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-

1800.

Till A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as boulder clay,

this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders

to rocks of quite substantial size.

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 7 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 2 Drawing sheets
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 8 Bags of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum 12 Friars Lane Lincoln LN2 1HQ

Accession Number:

2003.262

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

TRM03

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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